

Message Text

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21

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 AID-05 SCCT-01 CIEP-01

OMB-01 /078 W

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R 310648Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3861

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USCINCEUR

CINCUSNAVEUR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ADDIS ABABA 3695

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT PINS ET

SUBJECT: PMAC ISSUES DENIALS

REF: ADDIS ABABA 2946

1. RADIO ETHIOPIA AND ETHIOPIAN NEWSPAPERS OF MARCH 27, AND 28
CARRIED PMAC STATEMENT WHICH STRONGLY DENIED RUMORS THAT SIX TO
EIGHT PERCENT INCOME TAX INCREASE TO BE ASSESSED AGAINST WAGE
EARNERS TO COVER COST OF NATIONAL WORK CAMPAIGN. STATEMENT ALSO
DENIED WIDESPREAD RUMORS THAT INCOME TAX WOULD BE INCREASED FOR
BACHELORS, THAT PRIVATE BANK DEPOSITS WOULD BE CONFISCATED AND
THAT OWNERS OF MORE THAN ONE HOUSE WOULD HAVE ADDITIONAL HOUSES
CONFISCATED. STATEMENT CAUTIONED PUBLIC NOT TO BE DISTURBED BY
STORIES BEING SPREAD BY OLD REGIME SUPPORTERS AND PROMISED SEVERE
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PUNISHMENT TO SUCH RUMOR MONGERS.

2. RADIO ETHIOPIA ON MARCH 24 CARRIED PMAC CONDEMNATION OF "REACTIONARIES" ATTEMPT TO SUBVERT POPULAR MOVEMENT BY DISTRIBUTING USELESS PAMPHLETS SUCH AS "ETHIOPIAN VICTORY WILL BE UNDER COMMUNIST STRUGGLE" (SEE REFTEL). STATEMENT DENIED CONTENTIONS IN PAMPHLET THAT BLOODSHED IS INEVITABLE AND THAT REACTIONARIES AND ALL OLD ORDER FIGURES SHOULD BE KILLED. PMAC STATEMENT STRONGLY CRITICIZED PAMPHLET, TERMED PERPETRATORS "PROPHETS OF DOOM" AND REITERATED THAT PMAC HAS NO CONNECTION WITH THEM. PMAC DOES NOT RPT NOT INTEND TO ABOLISH RELIGION OR EXECUTE RELIGIOUS LEADERS. NUMBER OF RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS WERE REDUCED, STATEMENT SAYS, IN ORDER TO PROMOTE WORK EFFICIENCY -- NOT TO OBOLISH RELIGION. NOTHING WILL HAPPEN TO SUPPORTERS OF OLD REGIME IF THEY ACCEPT ETHIOPIAN SOCIALISM AND SUPPORT POPULAR REVOLUTION.

COMMENT: RUMORS OF INCOME TAX INCREASE AND NATIONALIZATION OF PRIVATE PROPERTY WERE WIDELY BELIEVED IN ADDIS ABABA AND DENIALS HAVE BEEN MET WITH SOME SKEPTICISM. THIS IS THIRD PUBLIC DENIAL OF "RUMOR CONCERNING NATIONALIZATION OF PRIVATE HOMES.

HUMMEL

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Review Date: 23 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 MAY 2003 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <02 JUN 2003 by MorefiRH>
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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05 JUL 2006

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